

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:) Conf. No.: 8414
Quirin STERNER)
Application No.: 10/579,530) Group Art Unit: 2855
Filed: May 16, 2006) Examiner: Eric Scott MCCALL
For: METHOD FOR DETERMINING ADDITIONAL)
DUEL CONSUMPTION IN A MOTOR VEHICLE)
AND METHOD FOR DISPLAYING ADDITIONAL)
FUEL CONSUMPTION)

Communication

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In response to the Patent Office communication of December 17, 2008, Appellant acknowledges with appreciation the allowance of claims 4, 6 and 7, and respectfully requests reconsideration of the rejection of claims 1 through 3 and 5 in view of the following comments.

It is submitted that the Barske system does not operate in the manner of determining at least one current value of a generator mechanical power input upon energization of an electrical consumer in a motor vehicle as provided in the claimed invention. The Barske system operates in a manner whereby the control module merely monitors various operating parameters of the engine to determine a low efficiency operation of the engine, and a particular charge level of the traction battery and, responsive to such conditions, operates a switch to charge the traction battery by means of a generator. In doing so, it does not monitor the operation of any generator as in the claimed invention. It particularly does not monitor the operation of either of generators 4 or 10.

Column 5, lines 1 through 21 of Barske cited in the Office action simply indicates that the ideal conditions to operate generator 10 to supply electrical power to traction battery 8 is when engine 1 is operated under low efficiency conditions. Column 6, lines 37 through 44 also cited in the Office action merely indicates the charge condition of the tractor battery 8, which conditions is inputted into the control module which functions upon being signaled that the engine is operating at low efficiency, to close valve 12 and thus cause electrical energy generated by generator 10 to be supplied to the traction battery 8. Accordingly, it is submitted that Barske neither discloses nor teaches the method recited in the remaining rejected claims.

In view of the foregoing, it respectfully is requested that the rejection of claims 1 through 3 and 5 be withdrawn, such claims be allowed and further that the application be passed to issue.

The Director is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency in the fees filed, asserted to be filed or which should have been filed herewith, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 14-1437.

Respectfully submitted,



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